



## AWO CAREER PATH (NAC/AW)



Naval Aircrewman Operator (AWO) belong to a diverse community, highly specialized in the platform to which they are assigned. AWOs operate various aircraft systems to support Anti-Submarine (ASW), Anti-Surface (ASUW), Search and Rescue (SAR), Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR), Electronic Countermeasure (ESM), Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR), and Logistic missions onboard P-3 and P-8 aircraft. Members also serve as Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) pilots and Payload Operators across various platforms.

YEARS OF SERVICE	CAREER MILESTONES	AVERAGE TIME TO PROMOTE	COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	SEA/ShORE FLOW	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
26-30	AWCM	23.6 Yrs	CMC	36	4 <sup>th</sup> Shore Tour Detailer/TYCOM/NAVAIR/ FRS/MPRWS/NATTC/NASC/ NACCS.
23-26	AWCM AWOCS	23.6 Yrs 17.8	CMC, CMDCS	36	4 <sup>th</sup> Sea Tour Billet: Dept LCPO, DET LCPO. Duty: VP/VPU/MTOC/SRT /VUP. Qualification: WTI/NATOPS Instructor/Watch Supervisor/ Watch Officer/ONI/BWC.
20-23	AWCM AWOCS AWOC	23.6 Yrs 17.8 14	CWO, CMC, CMDCS, ECM, Detailer, Rating Specialists, Placement Coordinator, Instructor Duty	36	3 <sup>rd</sup> Shore Tour Billet: ECM/Detailer/FRS Instructor/ Evaluator/Operations, Training, NATOPS LCPO/ MPRWS LCPO/Wing WTU LCPO/ TYCOM/ "A" School/ CNATTU/WTI/TOC/Water Survival Instructor/VX/VUP/ NAWCTSD/NAVAIR/ONI. Qualification: MTS/Watch Officer/BWC.
16-20	AWOCS AWOC AWO1	17.8 Yrs 14 8.5	CWO, OCS, MECP, CMDCS, RDC, Recruiting, Special Projects, PEP	42	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sea Tour Billet: Operations, Training, NATOPS, TACTICS LPO/LCPO. Duty: VP/VPU/MTOC/SRT/ UAS/ONI. Qualification: WTI/NATOPS Instructor/Watch Supervisor/ Watch Officer.



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13-16	AWOCS AWOC AWO1	17.8 Yrs 14 8.5	RDC, Recruiting, LDO, CWO, Instructor Duty	36	2 <sup>nd</sup> Shore Tour Billet: NAVAIR/FRS Instructor/ Evaluator/FIUT Instructor/ RDC Instructor/ SRT/UAS/VUP/MPRWS Instructor/WING WTU Instructor/TYCOM/"A" school/ CNATTU/TOC/Water Survival Instructor/WTI/VX/ NAWCTSD/ONI. Qualification: MTS/Watch Officer.
9-13	AWOC AWO1 AWO2	14 Yrs 8.5 3.4	Special Projects, PEP, SRT	54	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sea Tour Billet: Operations, Training, NATOPS, TACTICS LPO/LCPO. Duty: VP/VPU/ MTOC/SRT/UAS/ONI. Qualification: WTI/ NATOPS Instructor/Watch Supervisor/ Watch Officer.
6-9	AWO1 AWO2 AWO3	8.5 Yrs 3.4 1.6	LDO, STA-21, OCS, MECP, RDC, Recruiting, Instructor Duty	36	1 <sup>st</sup> Shore Tour Billet: Instructor/Training Petty Officer/Schedules LPO/Tactics Petty Officer/Logs and Records LPO. FRS Instructor/ FIUT Instructor/RDC Instructor/ MPRWS Instructor/WING WTU Instructor/"A" school Instructor/CNATTU/ VUP/TOC/Water Survival Instructor/VX/NMAWC/ONI. Qualification: MTS/Positional Instructor (ACTC Level 400)/WTI (ACTC Level 500).
1-6	AWO2 AWO3	3.4 Yrs 1.6	STA-21, OCS, MECP, Naval Academy, RDC, Recruiting	60	1 <sup>st</sup> Sea Tour Billet: Training Petty Officer/ Schedules Petty Officer/Logs and Records Petty Officer. Duty: VP. Qualification: NAWs/EAWS/ Positional Instructor (ACTC Level 400)/NATOPS/ Sensor Operator (ACTC Level 300)



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1+/-	AWOAN AWOAA Accession Training	9 Months			Recruit Training/NACCS/RSS/ NASC/FRS and all initial accession pipeline schools or training events required to be completed prior to reporting to their first operational command.

### Notes:

1. Upon completion of initial training pipelines, AWOs are typically close-looped detailed by NEC/platform until there is no longer a need for that NEC.
2. Member must volunteer for duty involving flying.
3. Must attend refresher training at a Fleet Replacement Squadron if member was distributed to a billet not requiring regular flight duties exceeding 18 months from T/M/S.

Introduction of new airframes required a few individuals to deviate from the normal sea/shore rotation and may exceed their normal PST/NST. These members were distributed based on airframe knowledge and experience required to establish formal classroom and flight training for transitioning commands.

4. Career enhancing billets or tours and special qualifications include: FRS Instructor, MPRWS, WTIs, Instructor Duty, FSU, BUPERS SDC, RDC, Recruiting, ECM/TECHAD, Detailer, Rating Specialist, Placement Coordinator, Overseas Duty, PEP Duty, SRT.
5. MTOC's primary mission is to provide full mission support to maritime patrol and reconnaissance forces (MPRF) with a mobile, expeditionary command, control, communications, and computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C4I) suite, at a Main Operating Base (TOC) or Forward Operating Site (MTOC).
6. In addition to operational duties, all AWOs are required to maintain minimum Naval Aircrew standards as well as maintain a SECRET or higher security clearance. AWOs follow the traditional career path for Tactical Operations and are not eligible for maintenance qualifications (i.e. SFF/CDI/CDQAR/QAS/Maintenance Supervisor, etc.)
7. Maintenance rated Fixed Wing Aircrewmen were merged into the AW rating in 2008, and AW service ratings were established. The following service ratings were effective on 1 Oct 2008: AWR, AWS, AWO, AWF, AWV which fall under the general rating AW. Senior Chief Petty Officers in the five service ratings compress to the AWCM rating when selected as a Master Chief Petty Officer.



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### 8. ACRONYMS SPECIFIC TO THE AW RATING INCLUDE:

MPRWS	P-3 and/or P-8 Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Weapons School
WTI	Weapons Tactics Instructor
FRS	Fleet Replacement Squadron
NAPP	Naval Aviation Production Process
NATOPS	Naval Aviation Training Operations Procedures and Standardization
NACCS	Naval Aircrew Candidate School
MTOC	Mobile Tactical Operations Center
TOC	Tactical Operations Center
SRT	Special Reconnaissance Team
MTS	Master Training Specialist
LSRS	Littoral Surveillance Radar System
AAS	Advanced Airborne Sensor
NATTC	Naval Aviation Technical Training Center
BWC	Battle Watch Captain
DAU	Defense Acquisition University
ACTC	Aircrew Training Continuum (Level 200, Cond Qual, 300 Positional Qual, 400 Positional Instructor, 500WTI)